Rakudai Kishi no Cavalry

Created by Soramichi Megumu & Misora Riki

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THE CURTAIN RISES ON THE DECISIVE BATTLE!

EVERYONE IN THE AUDIENCE, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

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THE SEVEN STARS SWORD-ART FESTIVAL'S FINAL REPRESENTATIVE SELECTION BATTLE BEGINS!

AND NOW,

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落第騎士の英雄譚 キャバルリィ

A TALE OF WORST ONE

原作 海空りく Original by Riku Misora × 漫画 空路 恵 Illust by Megumu Soramichi キャラクター原案 をん Character Design by Won

Chapter 31: **Crownless Sword King**

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A TALE OF WORST ONE

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THE PRIDE OF OUR SCHOOL!
AT THESE FINALS, SHE STANDS IN THE ARENA SHOULDERING THE HOPES OF EVERYONE HERE!
SHE'S OUR STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WHO HAS SHOWN US OVERWHELMING STRENGTH BY REACHING THIS POINT WITHOUT A SCRATCH.
FIRST IS THIRD-YEAR CONTENDER
"RAIKIRI" TOUKA TOUDOU!
WHAT AMAZING CONCENTRATION.
EVEN THIS FAR AWAY, MY SKIN'S PRICKLING.

SHIZUKU, ARE YOU OKAY?

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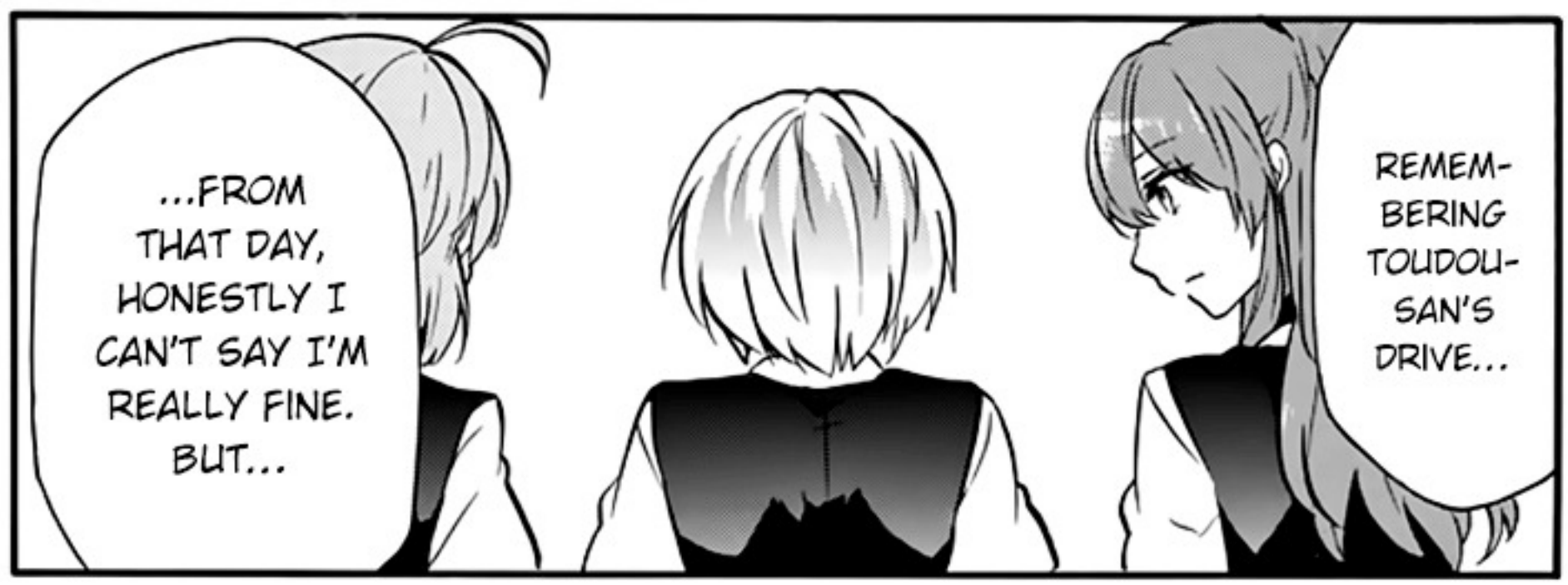

...FROM THAT DAY, HONESTLY I CAN'T SAY I'M REALLY FINE. BUT...
REMEM-BERING TOUDOU-SAN'S DRIVE...

ONII-SAMA IS DOING HIS BEST, SO I HAVE TO BE HERE.
I'LL SEE THIS MATCH THROUGH TO THE END.

WHAT THE RESULT IS.

ギュッ

NO MATTER...

ONCE SPURNED BY MANY, UNRECOGNIZED BY MOST,
FIRST-YEAR CONTENDER, "WORST ONE" IKKI KUROGANE!
HE'S MADE HIS WAY HERE ALONE!
DEFEATING THE MOST DISTINGUISHED KNIGHTS OF HAGUN ONE BY ONE!
AND TODAY EVERYONE KNOWS HIS NAME!

A WOLF BARING HIS FANGS AT THE HEAVENS,

HE'S REACHED THESE FINALS TO DEVOUR THE STARS!

HAGUN'S STRONGEST F-RANK KNIGHT!

NANGOU-SENSEI, YOU CAN TELL?

OH HO... SO THAT'S TOUKA'S OPPONENT?

I SEE... HE SEEMS STRONG.

HIS EXPRESSION ISN'T TENSE AT ALL.

OF COURSE.

ho ho ho

THIS WILL BE AN INTERESTING MATCH, I'D SAY.

THAT BOY,

HAS ALREADY RESOLVED HIMSELF, EVEN TO DIE IN THIS PLACE.

HE APPEARS QUITE FATIGUED, DOESN'T HE?

AND YET, HE STILL LOOKS TOWARD VICTORY?

SINCE HE KNOWS THAT RAIKIRI MIGHT KILL HIM.

IN TRUTH, THE OUTLOOK IS QUITE POOR,

SO KUROGANE WILL PROCEED WITH CAUTION.

He he he ♪

HMM?

THERE'S A POSSIBILITY HE'LL BE KILLED BY RAIKIRI?

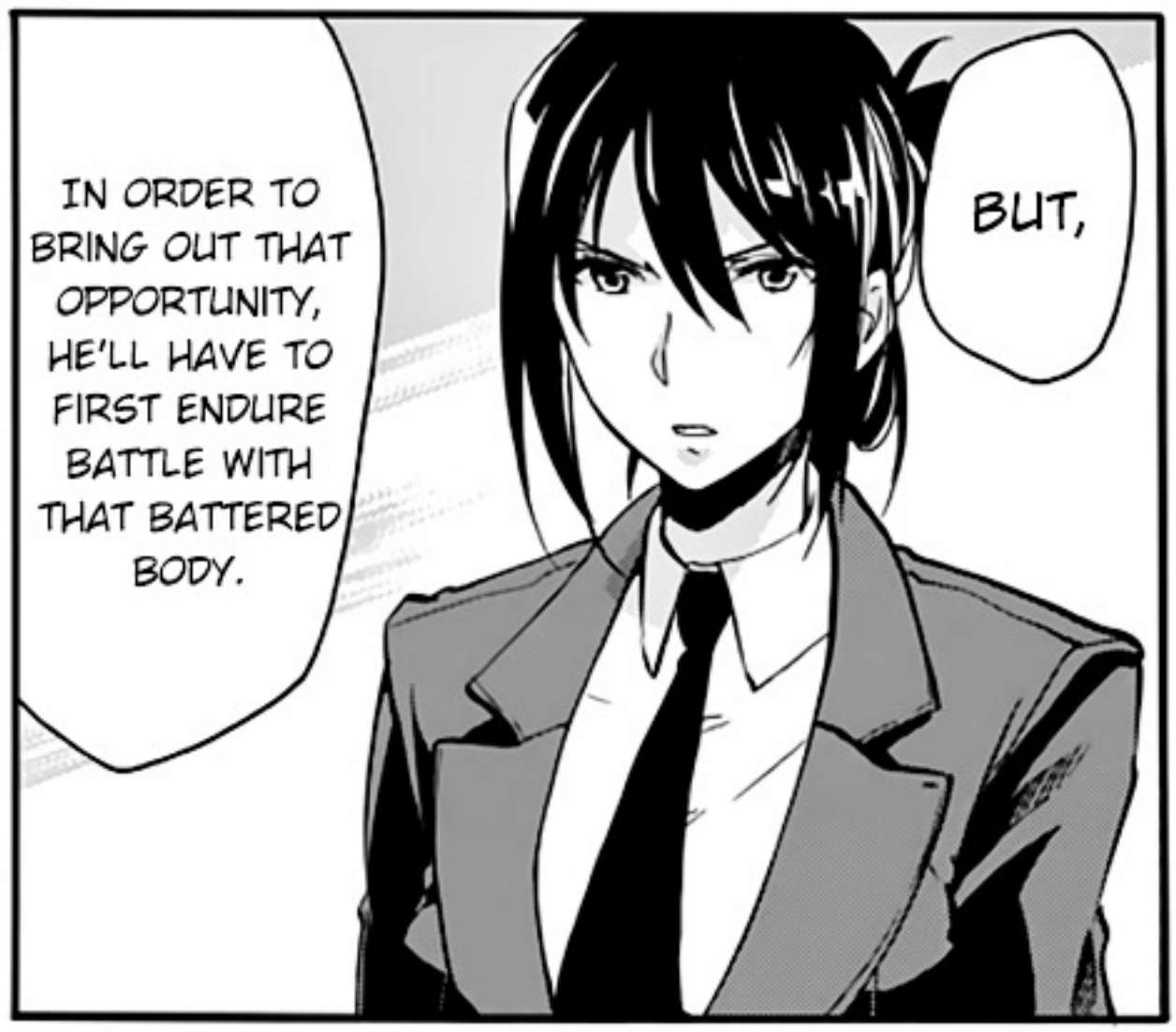
IF THE BLADE IS UNSHEATHED, IT CAN'T BE USED TO STRIKE.

...RAIKIRI IS A TECHNIQUE THAT DRAWS AND CUTS IN ONE MOTION.

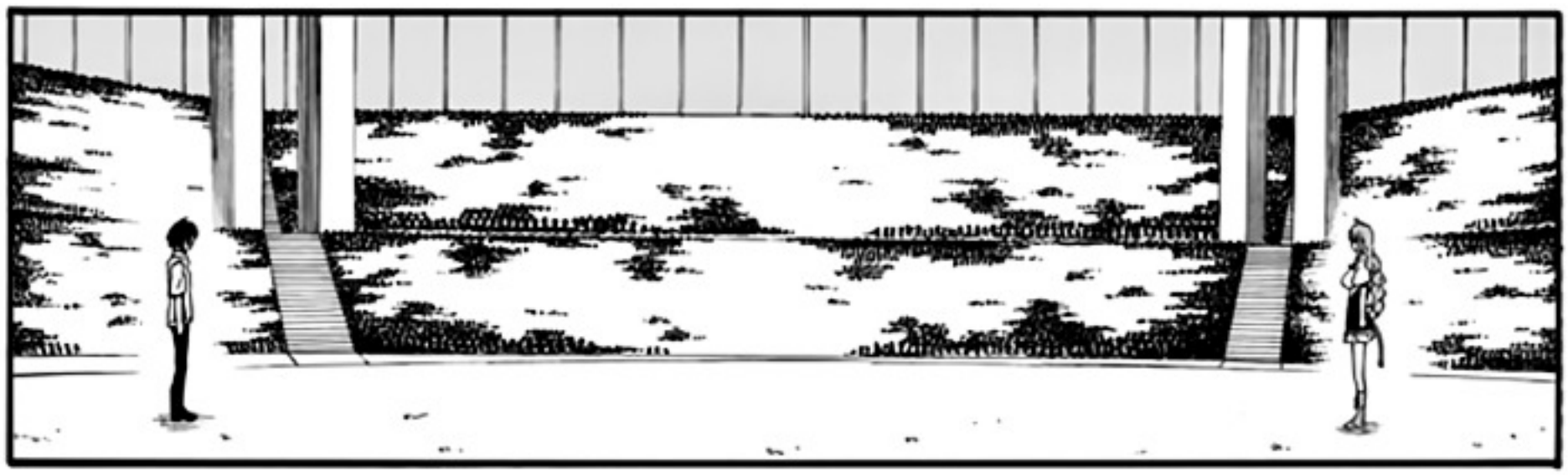
SHOULD TOUDOU'S ATTACK BE BAITED OUT, AND HER BLADE DRAWN USELESSLY,

THERE'S A SMALL INTERVAL IN WHICH RAIKIRI WON'T COME FORTH.

IF KUROGANE CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN, HIS CHANCE TO WIN WILL COME IN THAT INSTANT.



I SEE THIS MATCH AS AN EXCHANGE OF A SINGLE SLASH.



ALL THIS TIME, I WAS THINKING THAT IT WOULD BE GREAT IF YOU DIDN'T COME HERE.
SO I ASKED YOUR SISTER TO SUGGEST YOU FORFEIT.
I KNOW YOU'RE COVERED IN WOUNDS,
RIGHT NOW, I CAN'T HELP BUT LOOK FORWARD TO THIS MATCH...!
BUT...
EVEN SO, I...

BECAUSE I'VE THOUGHT FROM THE MOMENT WE MET,
THAT I WANTED TO FIGHT YOU!

THE SAME FOR ME, YOU KNOW.

THAT'S ...

BEFORE MYSELF, OR YOU... OR ALL THE PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT US.

STANDING HERE AS A KNIGHT,

I DON'T INTEND TO DISGRACE MY SWORD

SO I SWEAR ...

WITH MY GREAT WEAK-NESS,
I'LL BREAK YOUR INVIN-CIBILITY...!

AND NOW, THE MATCH BEGINS—

PLEASE CHEER THEM ON—

EVERYONE,

LET´s GO AHEAD!!
FROM THE START OF THE MATCH!?
ITTOU SHURA
WH-WH-WHAT IS CONTENDER KUROGANE DOING!?

I DECIDED EVER SINCE I MET TOUDOU-SAN...!

THE INSTANT I DEFEAT HER

IS THE SAME AS THE INSTANT I DEFEAT HER RAIKIRI.

A WIN WITHOUT CHALLENGING IT, WITHOUT BREAKING IT... CAN YOU EVEN CALL THAT VICTORY!?

THE ULTRA-ELECTROMAGNETIC SWORD DRAW, RAIKIRI, IS SYNONYMOUS WITH THE KNIGHT NAMED TOUKA TOUDOU.

NO NEED TO THINK ABOUT DYING,

NO NEED FOR USELESS PHYSICAL ENERGY,

—ONE SLASH IS ENOUGH.

I'LL DEFEAT HER HERE.

DEFEAT HER, AND THE INVINCIBLE RAIKIRI SHE'S SO PROUD OF—!

THIS IS MY PERSONAL CHALLENGE —!

KUROGANE-KUN MUST'VE DECIDED THAT THIS EXCHANGE WILL BE THE ONLY ONE.

WHAT DREADFUL VIGOR...!

BUT...

AND KEEP OUT OF RANGE UNTIL HIS DRIVE IS EXHAUSTED... HE WON'T HAVE ANYTHING LEFT, AND I'LL WIN.

THEN IF I FEINT WITH RAIKIRI AND RETREAT...

WHERE WILL I FIGHT IF I RUN AWAY HERE!?
CLOSE RANGE IS WHERE RAIKIRI IS UNBEATABLE!
SHOULDN'T I DEFEND MY SPOT AS HAGUN ACADEMY'S STRONGEST!?
WHAT A JOKE!

AND GO ON TO BECOME THE SEVEN STARS SWORD KING!

I'LL WIN AGAINST THIS PROUD KNIGHT,

MY INVIN-CIBLE RAIKIRI —!

TAKE THIS!

RAIKIRI IS JUST A BIT FASTER! I WON'T MAKE IT!
—OH NO.

IS TOO LONG.

THEN I'LL SHARPEN FURTHER!

GGG

GGG

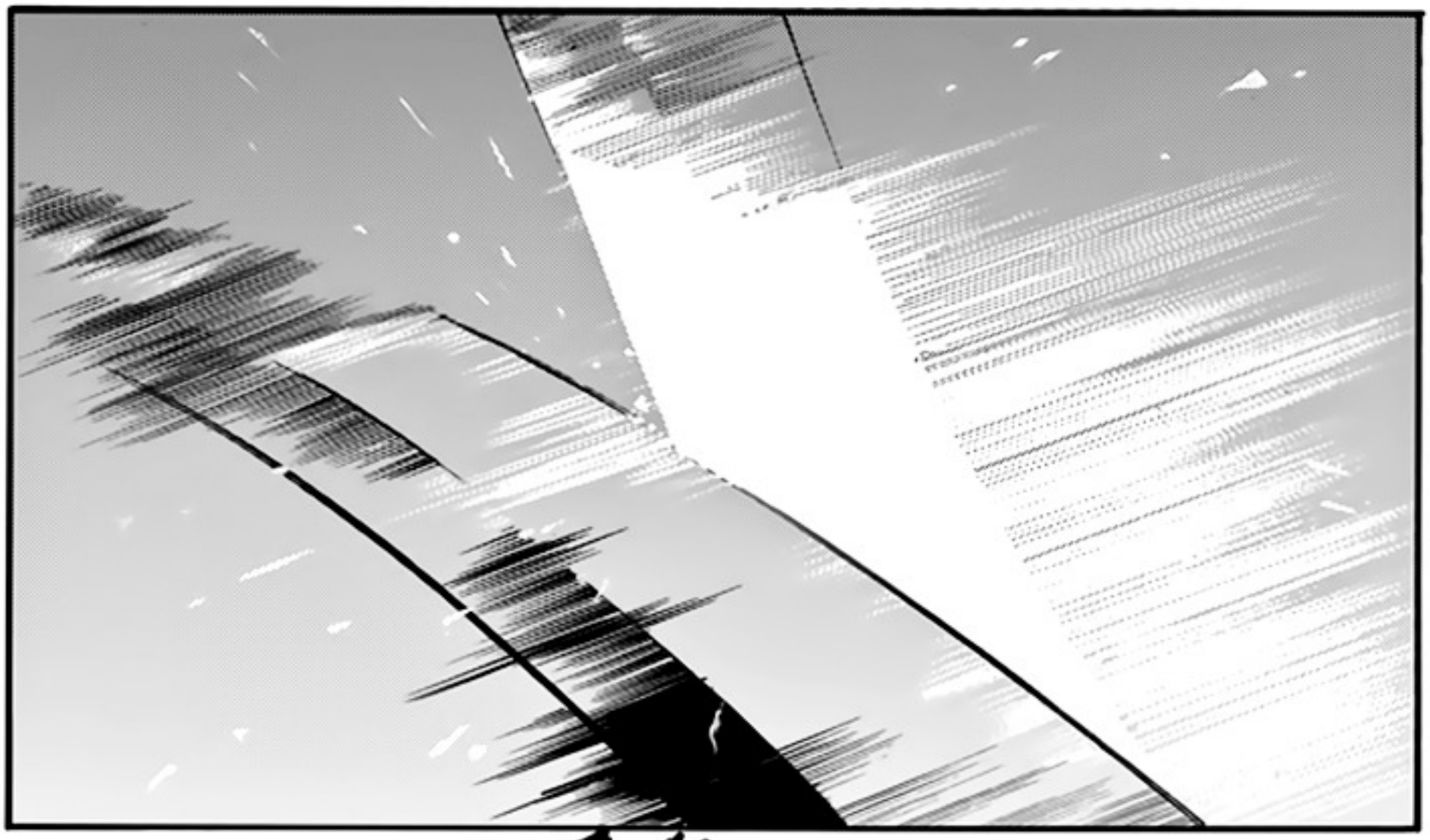
GGRR

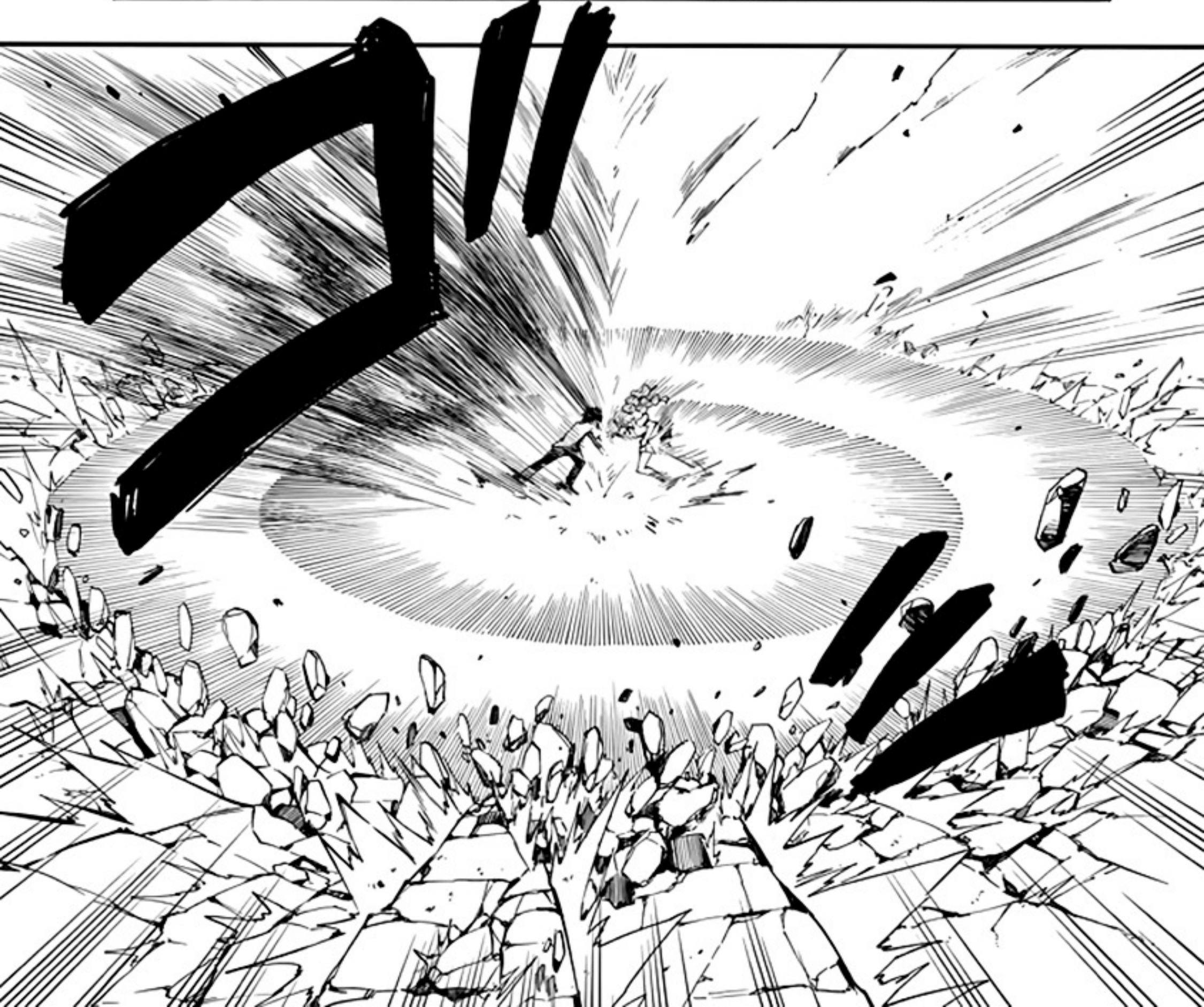
THROW AWAY MY SIGHT AND HEARING, CONCENTRATE ALL OF MY POWER!

RRHHH

MY USUAL ONE MINUTE

ONE
SECOND IS
ENOUGH.





ON THIS ONE SLASH!
I'LL PUT EVERYTHING

COUGH

COUGH

WH...

WHAT HAPPENED?

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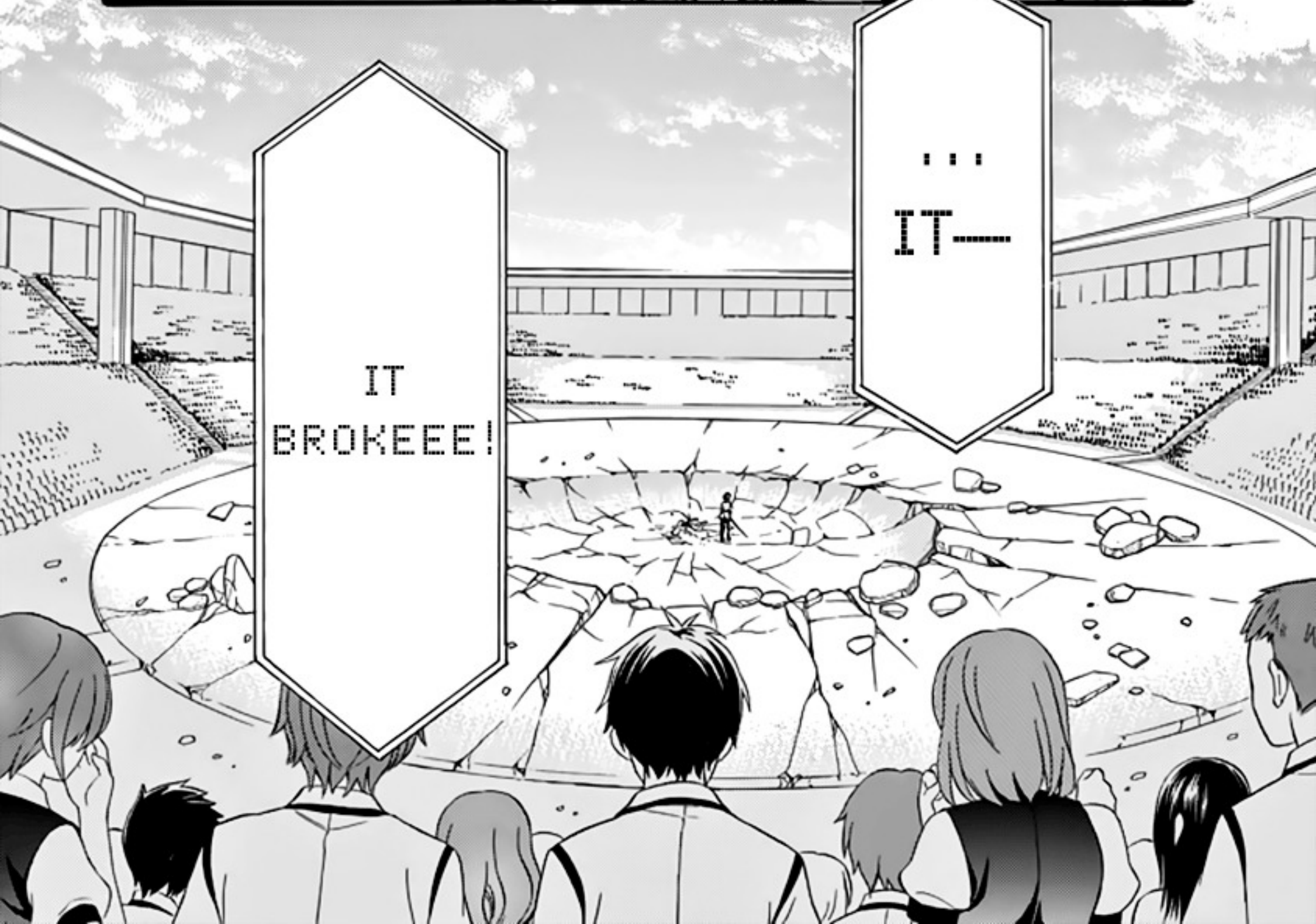
IT BROKEEE!
…
IT——

THE REFEREE IS RUSHING TOWARD CONTENDER TOUDOU!

A SINGLE CLASH! A STRIKE WITH ONLY A SMALL DIFFER-ENCE!

IN THAT ONE INSTANT, CONTENDER TOUKA TOUDOU'S NARUKAMI...! RAIKIRI...! THEY WERE BOTH DEMOL-ISHED!

CAN SHE CONTINUE!? IF NOT—

THERE IT IS!

THE REFEREE CONCLUDES SHE CAN'T KEEP FIGHTING!

THE MATCH IS OVERRR!

WHAT A CONCLUSION!

UNBELIEV-ABLE!

HE REALLY WON.

N-NO WAY...

WHAT AN ENDING!

HE'S CUT DOWN HAGUN ACADEMY'S STRONGEST KNIGHT!

WITH ONLY ONE CROSSING OF BLADES

THE WINNER STANDING IN THE RING IS THE WORST ONE, FIRST-YEAR CONTENDER IKKI KURO-GANE!

SHIZUKU-CHAN, YOU'RE NOT GOING?

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...!

I GUESS LETTING STELLA-CHAN DO HER THING FOR TODAY IS FINE, HUH?

...I CAN'T MOVE.

...NO.

...THAT'S NOT IT.

I'M GLAD HE'S OKAY...

I'M GLAD...!

ITTOU SHURA, WHICH EXHAUSTS ONE'S STRENGTH WITHIN A MINUTE, WASN'T ENOUGH TO WIN AGAINST RAIKIRI.

KUROGANE HIMSELF UNDER-STOOD THIS.

BY CONCEN-TRATING HIS STRONGEST ONE MINUTE EVEN FURTHER,

THAT'S WHY HE EXHAUSTED EVERYTHING HE HAD IN A SINGLE SWORD SWING!

HE MULTIPLIED HIS PHYSICAL AMPLIFICATION ABILITY HUNDREDS OF TIMES, RAISING HIS SPEED AND POWER...!

AN OGRE THAT EXCEEDS HUMANITY.
PERHAPS THAT WOULD BE CALLED THE WAY OF AN ASURA.
IT'S NOT WHAT A HUMAN WOULD DO.
IF WE HAD TO GIVE IT A NAME, THEN PERHAPS...
"ITTOU RASETSU"
TN: ONE BLADE RAKSHASA

THE RAIKIRI THAT TOUKA RELEASED WAS ONE I FOUND MOST BEAUTIFUL...

A SINGLE SLASH WITHOUT A SHRED OF HESITATION.

BUT THIS IS NO ORDINARY THING... NOT WHAT YOU WOULD USE FOR DECIDING A CONTEST.

WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT, OLD MAN?

AND WITHOUT A DOUBT, IT WAS JUST SLIGHTLY FASTER THAN THE BOY'S.

...BUT.

IN THAT TINIEST OF MOMENTS, THE BOY RESHAPED HIMSELF.

CONTINUOUSLY HONING HIMSELF LIKE A MADMAN THROUGH DEADLY ADVERSITY.

MAKING HIMSELF FASTER THAN HE WAS A MINUTE AGO. STRONGER THAN HE WAS A SECOND AGO.

HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN DOING THIS BIT BY BIT, MOSTLY LIKELY.

AN OUT-COME LIKE THIS!?

WH-WHO WOULD ACCEPT

LOOKS LIKE SEEING KUROGANE'S FIGHT HAS MADE HIM LOSE HIS MIND.

KUU-CHAN, IS IT OKAY TO LET HIM GO?

IKKI KUROGANE HAS ANSWERED HIS FAMILY'S ATTACKS, THE ABSURD DUEL...

AND EVEN A NATIONAL LEVEL VETERAN WITH A SINGLE DIRECT STROKE.

WHOA,

WHAT THE—

OUT OF MY WAY!

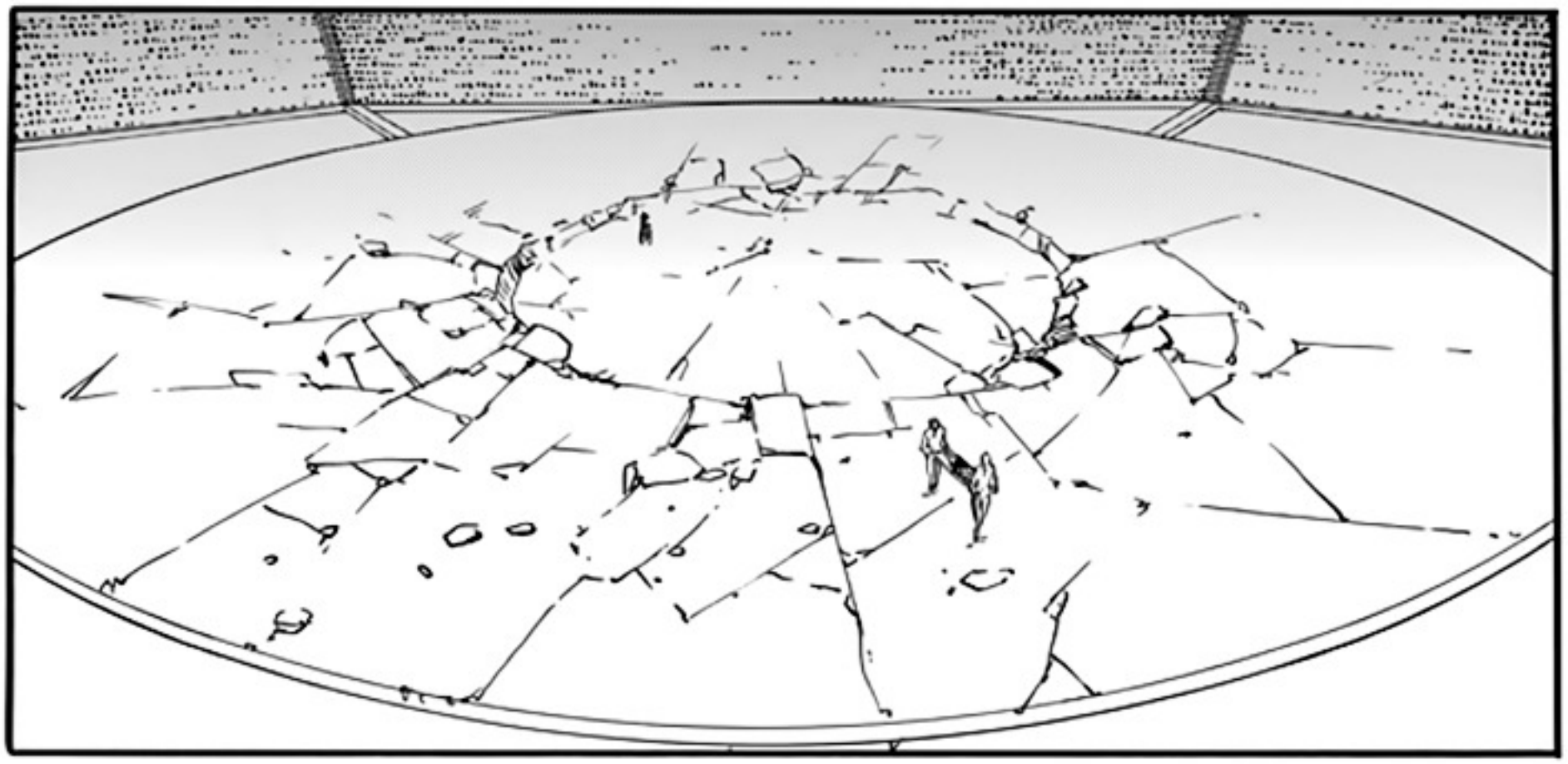
ANYWAY, IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE FOR ANYTHING THAT MAN WILL TRY TO DO.

THE NAME OF "WORST ONE", NO—

"CROWNLESS SWORD KING" WILL ECHO THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE WORLD.

ONCE THIS GETS IN THE NEWS,

NONE WILL BE ABLE TO DISMISS HIM.



THE CHEERS ARE... FAR AWAY.

IKKI...!
SO...

WERE YOU... THAT WORRIED?

I WAS...!

OOF.

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WELL DONE, IKKI!

THEN YOU HAD TO DO SOMETHING RIDICULOUS LIKE CHALLENGE RAIKIRI, ATTACKING FROM THE FRONT! YOU IDIOT IDIOT IDIOT!

YOU WERE CARRIED OFF SO SUDDENLY AND THEN YOU DIDN'T COME BACK FOR WEEKS!

HA HA...

AND YOU WERE HALF DEAD WHEN YOU APPEARED!

I'M AN IDIOT TOO.
BUT STILL...
BECAUSE I LOVE THE SIGHT OF YOU
...AHH,
THIS WARMTH.
MOVING ONWARD LIKE THAT.

THIS WAS

WHAT GAVE STRENGTH BACK TO MY FROZEN BODY.

SO I DECIDED,

BECAUSE OF STELLA, I COULD STAND UP AND CONTINUE TO FIGHT.

IF STELLA HADN'T BEEN HERE...

I WOULD'VE STILL BEEN THE DISAPPOINT-MENT WHO FATHER HAD THROWN AWAY.

IF I WON THIS MATCH, I WOULD TELL HER...
STELLA,

I WANT US TO BE A FAMILY.

...YES.

PLEASE
MAKE ME YOUR WIFE.

IKKI...?

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NO, IKKI!

HOLD ON!

IKKI'S BODY CAN'T HANDLE HIS POWER BEING CONCENTRATED THAT MUCH!

THE DAMAGE FROM THE FIGHT...!

STOOOPPP!

YOU SEE, HE AND I NEED TO HAVE A DUEL, YES!

THE REAL OPPONENT FOR THE DUEL WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ME!

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TEH.

HE HE HE!

HAA.

PRINCESS! PLEASE LEAVE THAT BOY HERE!

TH—

THIS IS A PROMISE BETWEEN MEN!

NOW, LET ME HAVE

THAT BBBB

MOVE!

IKKI...!

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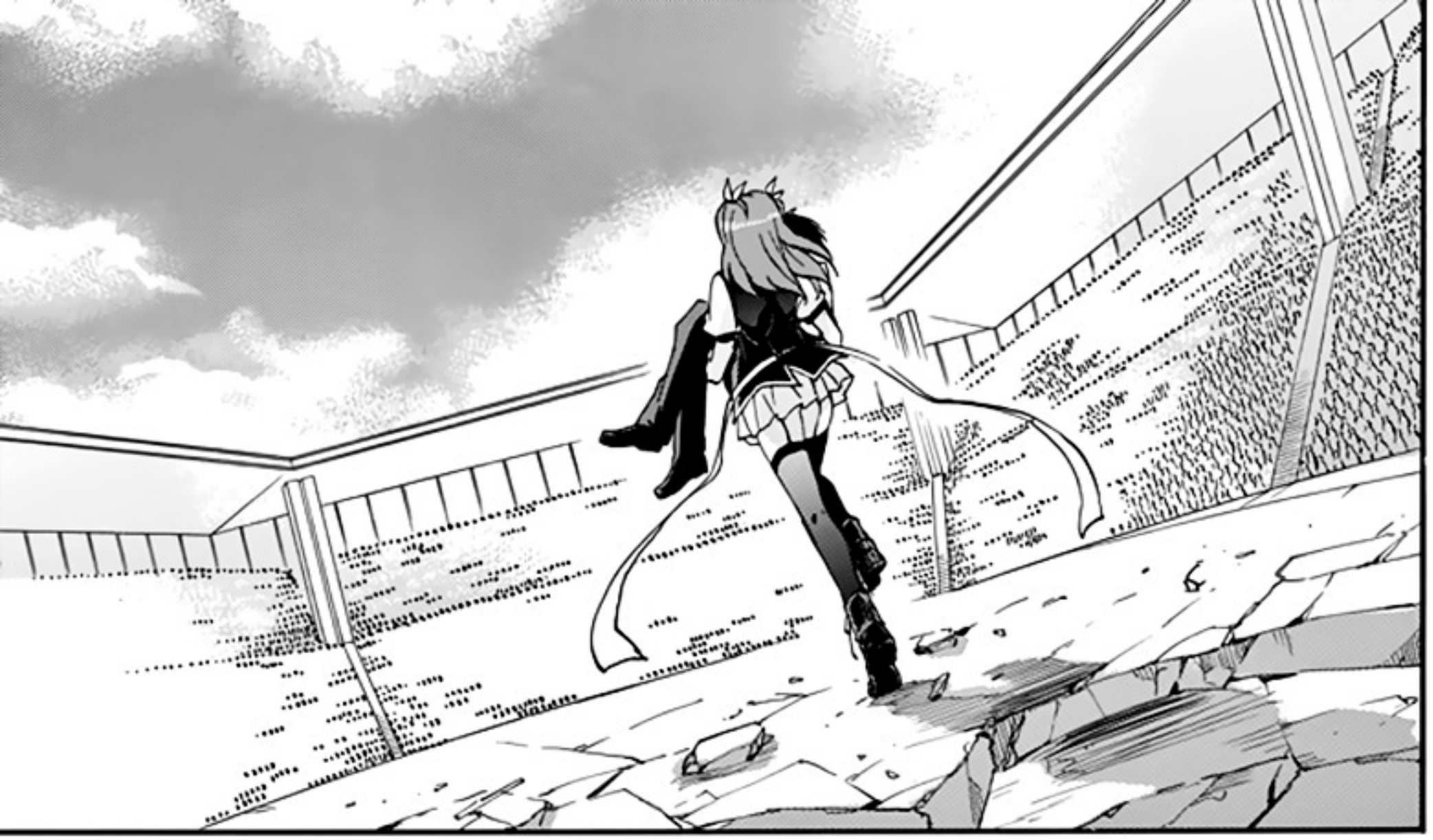

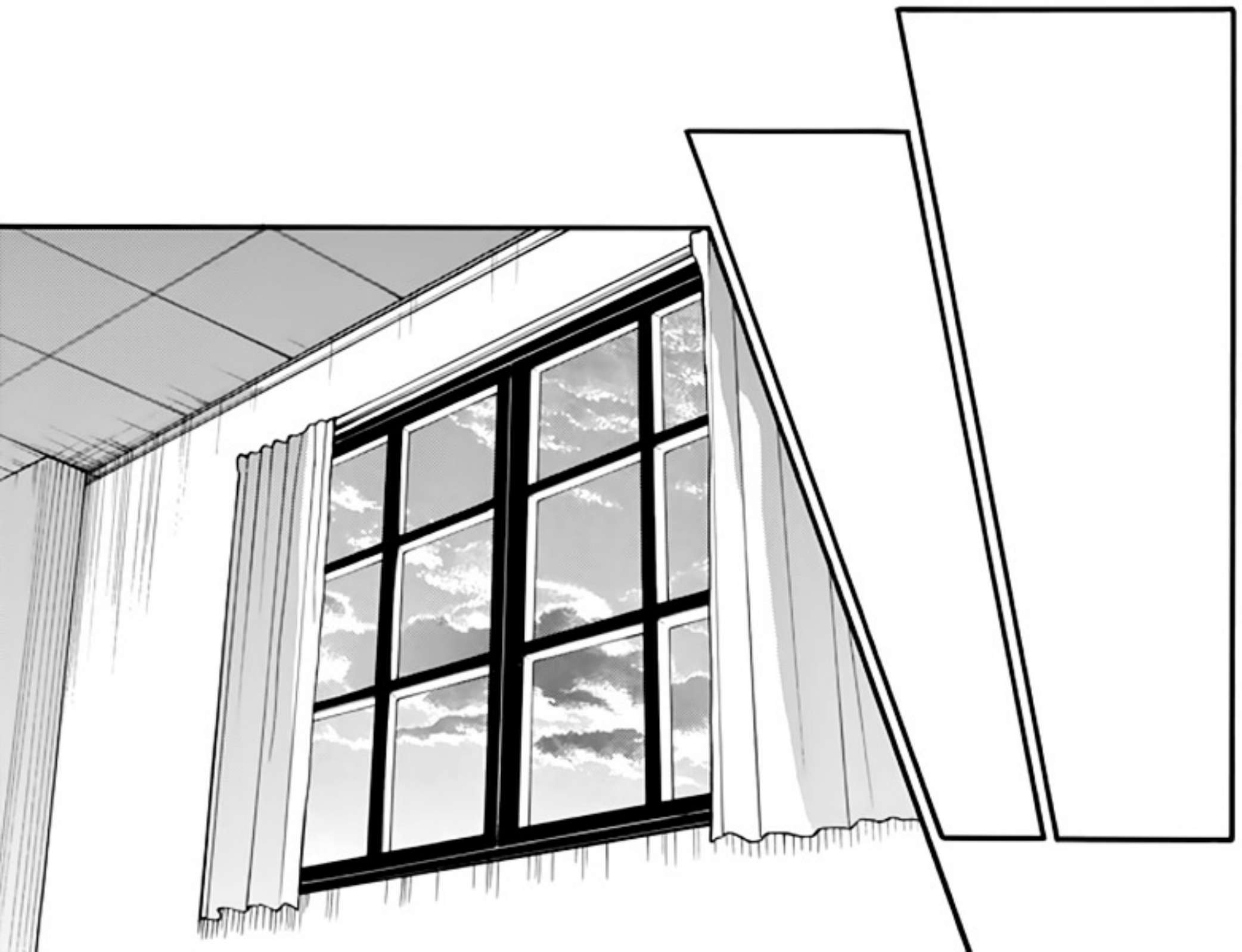

ARE YOU AWAKE, TOUKA?

EVEN THOUGH I THOUGHT RAIKIRI WAS THE STRONGEST.

I GUESS I LOST.

OH...

I HAD NO DOUBT MY SWORD EXCEEDED KUROGANE-KUN'S.

AT THAT TIME, I KNEW I HAD PULLED OUT ALL OF MY STRENGTH.

BUT IN THAT MOMENT, KURGANE-KUN BECAME EVEN FASTER.

SHOULD WE GET IN TOUCH WITH EVERYONE AT WAKABA HOUSE?

...WHAT AN AMAZING PERSON.

I'LL TALK TO THEM MYSELF.

NO, IT'S FINE.

THAT RAIKIRI WAS A STRIKE I WOULDN'T BE ASHAMED TO SHOW ANYONE.

IN MY MATCH WITH KUROGANE-KUN,

I BROUGHT OUT EVERYTHING I HAD RIGHT THEN.

SO I'LL GO BACK HOME WITH MY HEAD HIGH.
AND I'LL TELL THEM
THAT I FOUGHT AGAINST AN AMAZING KNIGHT.

YEAH.

TELL THEM EVERYTHING.

TO BE CONTINUED 11/3

WITH MANY THOUGHTS SHARED AND ENTRUSTED, THE REPRESENTATIVE SELECTION BATTLES ARE COMPLETE!